IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An information processor comprising:

a first judging means for judging whether a first content has been ~~checked out~~ transferred to another apparatus connected to the information processor;

a second judging means for judging whether a second content has been ~~checked out~~ transferred to another apparatus connected to the information processor; and

means for combining the first and second contents together when it is determined by the first and second judging means that neither the first nor second content has been ~~checked out~~ transferred to another apparatus connected to the information processor.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a third judging means for judging whether a maximum number of possible ~~checkouts~~ transfers to another apparatus connected to the information processor for the first content is equal to that for the second content, and wherein the combining means combines the first and second contents together when it is determined by the third judging means that the maximum number of possible ~~checkouts~~ transfers to another apparatus connected to the information processor is equal to that for the second content.

Claim 3 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising means for judging whether a playback time limit or number of times of playback is set for the first and second contents, and wherein the combining means combines the first and second contents when no limit is set for both the first and second contents.

Claim 4 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising means for generating a name for combined contents based on the names of the first and second contents.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): An information processing method in which first and second contents are combined together, the method comprising:

a first judging step of judging whether a first content has been ~~checked out~~ transferred to another apparatus connected to an information processor; and

a second judging step of judging whether a second content has been ~~checked out~~ transferred to another apparatus connected to an information processor; and

a content combining step of combining the first and second contents together when it is determined that neither the first nor second content has been ~~checked out~~ transferred to another apparatus connected to an information processor.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 5, further comprising a third judging step of judging whether the maximum number of possible ~~checkouts~~ transfers to another apparatus connected to an information processor for the first content is equal to that for the second content; and wherein the first and second contents are combined together at the content combining step when it is determined that the maximum number of possible ~~checkouts~~ transfers to another apparatus connected to an information processor for the first content is equal to that for the second content.

Claim 7 (Original): The method according to claim 5, further comprising a playback limit judging step of judging whether a playback time limit or limit of times of playback is set for the first and second contents, and wherein the first and second contents are combined together at the content combining step when it is determined that no playback time limit or

limit of times of playback is set for both the first and second contents.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A program storage medium having stored therein a computer-readable program, the program stored in the medium comprising:

a first judging step of judging whether a first content has been ~~checked out~~ transferred to another apparatus connected to an information processor; and

a second judging step at which is it judged whether a second content has been ~~checked out~~ transferred to another apparatus connected to an information processor; and

a content combining step of combining the first and second contents together when it is determined that neither the first nor second content has been ~~checked out~~ transferred to another apparatus connected to an information processor.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The medium according to claim 8, the program further comprising a third judging step of judging whether a maximum number of possible ~~checkouts~~ transfers to another apparatus connected to an information processor for the first content is equal to that for the second content, and wherein the first and second contents are combined together at the content combining step when it is determined that the maximum number of possible ~~checkouts~~ transfers to another apparatus connected to an information processor for the first content is equal to that for the second content.

Claim 10 (Original): The medium according to claim 8, the program further comprising a playback limit judging step of judging whether a playback time limit or limit of times of playback is set for the first and second contents, and wherein the first and second contents are combined together at the content combining step when it is determined that no

playback time limit or limit of times of playback is set for both the first and second contents.

Claim 11 (Original): The medium according to claim 8, the program further comprising a step of generating a name for the combined contents based on the names of the first and second contents.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): An information processor comprising:

means for judging whether a content has been ~~checked out~~ transferred to another apparatus connected to the information processor; and

means for dividing the content when it is determined that the content has not been ~~checked out~~ transferred to another apparatus connected to the information processor.

Claim 13 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising means for judging whether a playback limit is set for a content, and wherein the content dividing means divides the content when no playback limit is set for the content.

Claim 14 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 12, further comprising means for generating names for the two contents, respectively, generated by the division based on the name of their original content.

Claim 15 (Withdrawn): An information processing method comprising invention, steps of:

judging wether a content has been checked out; and

dividing the content when it is determined that the content has not been checked out.

Claim 16 (Withdrawn): The method according to claim 15, further comprising a step of judging whether a playback limit is set for the content, and wherein the content is divided when it is determined that no playback limit is set for the content.

Claim 17 (Withdrawn): The method according to claim 15, further comprising a step of generating names for the two contents generated by the division based on their original content.

Claim 18 (Withdrawn): A program storage means having stored therein a computer-readable program, the program including steps of:

judging whether a content has been checked out; and

dividing the content when it is determined that the content has not been checked out.

Claim 19 (Withdrawn): The medium according to claim 18, the program further comprising a step of judging whether a playback limit is set for the content, and wherein the content is divided when it is determined that no playback limit is set for the content.

Claim 20 (Withdrawn): The medium according to claim 18, the program further comprising a step of generating names for the two contents generated by the division based on their original content.